#### HOUSING TRUST FUND CORPORATION

# OPERATIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2021 TO MARCH 31, 2022

New York State Homes and Community Renewal ("HCR") serves New Yorkers by fostering the creation and preservation of affordable housing and community development initiatives in accordance with the vision of Governor Kathy Hochul and under the leadership of Commissioner RuthAnne Visnauskas. The HCR umbrella encompasses the Housing Trust Fund Corporation ("HTFC"), as well as New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, New York State Housing Finance Agency, State of New York Mortgage Agency, New York State Affordable Housing Corporation, Municipal Bond Bank Agency, and Tobacco Settlement Financing Corporation.

HTFC was established by Chapter 67 of the Laws of 1985, specifically under Section 45-a of the New York Private Housing Finance Law, as a subsidiary public benefit corporation of the New York State Housing Finance Agency. HTFC's mission is to further community development through the construction, development, revitalization and preservation of low-income housing, the development and preservation of businesses, the creation of job opportunities, and the development of public infrastructures and facilities. In accordance with the initiatives of the Governor, HTFC's mission is expanded to further recovery, rebuilding, and resiliency efforts of homes, businesses, and public infrastructure and facilities in storm-affected counties throughout New York State. In fulfilling its mission, HTFC commits to advance MWBE goals and fair housing goals.

This report is intended to present the basic operations of HTFC and highlight many of the accomplishments of HTFC over the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022. HTFC operates through broad offices of HCR including the program offices for community and economic development, affordable housing preservation, single and multifamily affordable housing financing and development, and storm recovery.

## **Community and Economic Development**

The Office of Community Renewal is responsible for administering programs that foster community and economic development, job creation and downtown revitalization. This includes annual funding for programs including Access to Home, Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnership, New York Main Street, RESTORE and the Rural & Neighborhood Preservation programs.

HTFC awarded over \$200 million for over 500 contracts during this fiscal year through the Office of Community Renewal. These awards proposed to create or preserve 104 commercial units; create or rehabilitate 1399 residential units, create or retain 1292 jobs and provide administrative support for nearly 200 not-for-profit organizations.

OCR administers a group of other programs in addition to the State and Federal programs awarded through annual competitive funding rounds in this fiscal year. These programs include:

- <u>Lake Ontario Flood Recovery Program:</u> Assistance to property owners that sustained damage from Lake Ontario flooding. This includes coordination with four regional not-for-profit organizations to respond to approximately 3,500 applications for assistance.
- <u>Southern Tier-Finger Lakes Recovery Program</u>: Assistance to property owners that sustained damage from storms impacting the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions. This includes coordination with three regional not-for-profit organizations to respond to over 200 applications for assistance.
- <u>JP Morgan Chase Settlement funds:</u> Support for Access to Home for Heroes (Veterans).
- <u>Legacy Cities Access Program:</u> Offers financing for the rehabilitation of vacant homes for first time homebuyers in areas with historic disparities in access to homeownership.
- <u>Manufactured Home Advantage Program (MHAP):</u> Offers financing for the acquisition and improvement of manufactured home communities in need of infrastructure and other improvements to enhance residents' quality of life.
- <u>Department of Health Medicaid Resign Team (MRT) funds</u>: Supports an expanded Access to Home program for Medicaid recipients.
- <u>Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)</u>: OCR, in coordination with the NYS Department of State and Empire State Development, administers awarded DRI projects that align with other OCR program areas.
- <u>Buffalo Main Streets Initiative:</u> OCR, in coordination with Empire State Development, administers awards through four rounds of the Better Buffalo Fund, a community development initiative funded by the Buffalo Billion.

Additionally, the American Rescue Plan included \$10 Billion in federal assistance for the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) to support homeowners who are at-risk of housing insecurity or displacement as a direct result of economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. New York State was allocated just over \$539 million under the HAF program. These funds were directed by the NYS legislature in the 21-22 budget to flow through the Housing Trust Fund Corporation.

The HAF portal opened and began accepting applications on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. Thirty thousand eight hundred and ninety (30,890) applications were submitted and eligibility review for all applications was completed as of June 3, 2022. As of June 8<sup>th</sup>, 4,863 homeowners have been assisted with either funds committed or disbursed for a total 6,297 awards totaling \$66,650,754.74.

### **Housing Preservation**

Through its Office of Housing Preservation ("OHP"), HTFC administers the programs that maintain and enhance the State's portfolio of existing affordable housing and administers

programs to provide federal and state housing assistance to make housing affordable. It administers programs including the Public Housing Modernization Program, a program to fund projects for the comprehensive modernization and repair of affordable rental housing.

HTFC also administers both tenant-based and project based rental assistance through federal contracts for Section 8 Performance Based Contract Administration ("PBCA") and Housing Choice Vouchers ("HCVs"). We also utilize state funding to provide rental assistance to federally financed rural properties through New York State's Rural Rental Assistance Program ("RRAP"). These programs complement HTFC's mission to build and preserve affordable housing by providing federal and state rental assistance primarily to very low- and extremely- low income households. Together, these three programs provide over \$2 billion annually in Housing Assistance Payments.

HTFC is the only statewide Public Housing Authority in New York. Through our PBCA contract with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), HTFC administers rental assistance and provides oversight for the country's largest Section 8 multi-family, project-based portfolio, which includes 975 contracts with 101,670 units. HTFC utilizes a unique public-private partnership to monitor compliance and respond effectively to landlord and tenant issues. It also leverages federal and state resources to help preserve affordability. HTFC established the Preservation Weatherization Plus (P+) initiative to improve health, safety and energy efficiency in multi-family properties. As part of this initiative, HTFC has allocated \$7 million in corporate resources to upgrade targeted properties in the PBCA portfolio.

HTFC administers approximately 44,000 Section 8 HCVs that can be used to lease properties in the private sector, which enables qualifying families to secure housing. A percentage of HTFC's allocation is also converted to Project-Based Vouchers (PBVs), which support efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing in the marketplace. HTFC is in the process of evaluating proposals to allocate additional PBVs to statewide properties that will aid in the preservation of affordable housing stock. HTFC also administers Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH), Mainstream 5, and Non-Elderly Disabled vouchers.

In 2020, HTFC administered its first voucher for the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative. HTFC is now administering 7 FYI vouchers in multiple counties. As part of an effort to aid the most vulnerable households, HTFC adopted a homeless preference that is applied to all statewide tenant-based voucher waiting lists. The New York City Subsidy Services program opened its waiting list from May 17, 2021 – May 28, 2021, for the first time in years, adding thousands of households that are currently being issued vouchers in accordance with preference policies. A policy was also adopted allowing veterans eligible for VASH vouchers to lease up in single-room occupancy (SRO) units that could potentially aid in the successful transition to stable housing.

Working with HCR's Office of Research and Strategic Analysis and Fair Housing staff as well as a variety of national, state and local partners, we are supporting efforts to expand housing mobility across the State. We implemented exception payment standards in

"opportunity areas" of Long Island to support the mobility counseling program. Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMRs) have also been established on Long Island and in Dutchess and Tompkins counties, joining Westchester as a county that has had SAFMRs established for many years. These higher payment standards provide voucher holders an opportunity to locate affordable housing in areas that may have historically been out of reach. Combined with a landlord bonus incentive that is equal to one-month's rent and security deposit assistance for eligible leasing households, HTFC is working to eliminate barriers to obtaining housing.

In addition to the HCV program, HTFC also launched the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program. HTFC works with a statewide network of Continuums of Care that refer homeless households that are eligible to receive EHVs in counties across the state. HTFC was allocated 1,566 vouchers that serve to assist these referred households for as long as eligibility is maintained, with unutilized vouchers sunsetting as of September 2023. Households are eligible for tenant stipends that aid in transitioning to stable housing, as well as a variety of post-move services that are geared towards enhancing self-sufficiency.

HTFC continues to improve the program by re-procuring the statewide network of LAs that are subject to new contracts designed to improve internal controls and evaluation criteria. Combined with the continuing implementation of a new technology solution, the goal is to enhance reporting capabilities, program performance tracking, and the services provided to program stakeholders. HTFC has been consistently rated as a "High Performer" by HUD.

Additionally, HTFC works closely with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Office to provide state-funded rental assistance through RRAP to 242 properties with 4,994 units located across the rural regions of the State. these properties often represent the only quality affordable housing available in the communities.

The Public Housing Modernization (PHM) program provides grants to NY State-aided Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) where rental income is insufficient, and funds are unavailable from other sources for needed repairs and improvements. Currently, there are 9 PHAs overseeing 17 state-aided projects, containing a total of 1,839 dwelling units receiving annual appropriations of \$6 million. Last year, PHM funds were granted to State-aided PHAs to implement a multi-phase modernization plan over a multi-year period. In addition, HTFC awarded Public Housing Modernization Funds to six qualifying New York State-Aided Public Housing Authorities to participate in Housing Preservation training to position their redevelopment projects for success.

### Financing and Development of Multifamily Housing

Through its Office of Finance and Development, HTFC administers programs that fund the development and preservation of quality affordable rental housing including the Low-Income Housing Trust Fund Program, Senior Housing Program, Public Housing Preservation Program, Rural and Urban Community Investment Fund, Middle Income Housing Program, Supportive Housing Opportunities Program, and the Federal Housing Trust Fund Program.

In the past fiscal year, through Office of Finance and Development, HTFC has made multifamily development awards totaling over \$186 million which has leveraged approximately \$53 million in private and public investment. These awards spurred over \$941 million in affordable housing and community renewal investment throughout the State and assisted in the creation or rehabilitation of nearly 3,000 units of affordable housing. Many of the projects receiving HTFC financial support represent coordinated investments with the State agency partners including the Office of Mental Health, Office for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Empire State Development Corporations, the New York State Energy Research Authority and the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.

## **Accomplishments Overview**

Overview of HTFC's fiscal year accomplishments across its programming, with the exception of storm recovery programming which is set forth separately below:

HTFC Program	Amount Awarded	Amount Leveraged	Housing Units, Jobs or Businesses Created/Preserved and Households or People Assisted*
Access to Home	\$1,293,025	\$322,000	75 Residential Units
Access to Home for Heroes/Veterans	\$1,033,400	\$76,255	57 Residential Units
Access to Home for Medicaid Recipients	\$150,000	\$8,000	15 Residential Units
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$83,944,238	\$156,202,197	654 Residential Units 772 Jobs 127,400 Persons
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act Funding	\$56,801,465	\$21,274,504	199 Residential Units 520 Jobs 640,961 Persons
Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)	\$23,693,042	\$21,91,490	29 Residential Units 109 Commercial Units
HOME Investment Partnership – Local Programs	\$10,270,478	\$1,539,250	164 Residential Units
Legacy Cities Access Program	4,794,801	4,149,003	42 Residential Units
Manufactured Home Advantage Program (MHAP)	\$7,957,841	\$2,415,581	187 Residential Units

Mobile & Manufactured Home Replacement (MMHR)	\$800,000	\$85,000	8 Residential Units
Neighborhood & Rural Preservation Programs	\$18,190,000	\$5,992,800	Administrative support for 192 organizations
New York Main Street (NYMS)	\$4,230,175	\$3,244,458	21 Residential Units 47 Commercial Units 8 Technical Assistance Projects
New York Main Street (NYMS) Housing Plan Funds	\$2,056,312	\$2,069,916	31 Residential Units 42 Commercial Units
RESTORE - Residential Emergency Services to Offer (Home) Repairs to the Elderly	\$1,423,000	\$672,800	146 Residential Units
Rural Rental Assistance Program	\$21,600,000	N/A	N/A
Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (including CARES Act funds)	\$ 534,952,548	N/A	536,444 unit months leased
Section 8 Project Based Contract Administration	\$ 1,712,904,258	N/A	N/A
Preventative Troubled Asset Program	\$1,730,000	\$3,600,000	295 Residential Units
Rural and Urban Community Investment Fund	\$7,492,589	\$148,278,959	441 Units
Low Income Housing Trust Fund	\$67476189	\$377,137,959	1,084 Units
All Affordable NYC	\$5,000,000	\$27,282,992	57 Units
Senior Housing Program	\$11,000,000	\$44,362,512	139 Units
Public Housing Preservation Program	\$15,000,000	\$38,863,026	141 Units
Middle Income Housing Program	\$665,000	\$14,897,567	63 Units
Supportive Housing Opportunities Program	\$47,052,965	\$284,529,868	829 Units
HOME Investment Partnership - Multifamily Capital	\$16,477,319	\$137,678,680	373 Units

Homes for Working Families Program	\$17,403,734	\$205,000,000	752 Units
Federal Housing Trust Fund Program	\$835,000	\$10,912,769	34 Units

<sup>\*</sup>The amount leveraged and assistance reported reflects estimated numbers proposed for assistance in awarded projects. The amount leveraged and impact for projects receiving more than one source of HTFC financing may be duplicated. Accomplishments are estimated and confirmed at project/contract completion.

## **Governor's Office of Storm Recovery**

GOSR administers its NY Rising programs directly via staff and vendors, as well as through a variety of organizations and municipalities through Sub-Recipient Agreements. GOSR is led by Executive Director Katie Brennan, with support and oversight from HCR's Commissioner RuthAnne Visnauskas and Chief of Staff Cathleen McCadden.

### Housing Recovery

Spearheading the State's efforts to assist storm-affected homeowners, GOSR operates its NY Rising Housing Recovery Program to facilitate repairs, rehabilitation, mitigation, and elevation for the owners of single-family homes. Programs are also available for the owners of storm-damaged rental properties, and for condominium and cooperative properties. In Fiscal Year 2022, the NY Rising Housing Recovery (Single-Family Housing) Program continued to provide funds to homeowners impacted by Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee. The program offers funding for home rehabilitation and reconstruction, as well as funding for optional resiliency adaptations for homes (bulkhead, elevation, and other optional mitigation activity). As of April 30, 2022, Single-Family Housing issued payments to 10,662 applicants for a total disbursement of over \$1 billion. Of that value, the program disbursed more than \$389 million to 4,007 low- and moderate-income households.

The Single-Family Housing Program closed to new applicants on April 11, 2014. Since that time, the program focused on providing comprehensive assistance to applicants as they rehabilitate their homes and make additional resiliency improvements through closeout. Comprehensive assistance includes offering applicants the opportunity to participate in the Optional Measures components of the program, including the development of a program-sponsored Construction Program and environmental remediation support.

The opportunity to participate in Optional Measures ended for the vast majority of applicants on April 30, 2022, with 926 applicants electing bulkhead repair, 2,200 homeowners electing to elevate, and 1,818 applicants electing other optional measures, ranging from elevating boilers and electrical systems to installing flood vents, backflow valves and / or roof strapping. With the closure of Optional Measures, the program's

primary prospective goal is to close out applicants. The closeout goal will be facilitated through payments to applicants and the program-sponsored Construction Program.

Additionally, GOSR's Project Delivery Office (PDO) continued to manage a full-service design and construction program assisting still-struggling homeowner applicants with the completion of their repair, environmental abatement, elevation, mitigation, and reconstruction projects. GOSR established pools of pre-qualified designers, construction contractors, and abatement firms, and regularly issues procurement opportunities to these firms. GOSR also emphasizes the use of Section 3, MWBE, and SDVOB firms, and, through its Office of Diversity and Civil Rights, has held multiple outreach events to ensure that these firms have significant business opportunities in this program. Since the creation of PDO, GOSR broke ground on 226 elevation projects, with all 226 now complete. There were 69 home reconstruction projects started, 67 of which have been completed. In addition, GOSR has completed 876 environmental abatement projects in applicant homes.

To date, 10,597 applicants have closed out of the single-family housing recovery program. These applicants have completed the rehabilitation of their homes or optional measures and have received their final payments from GOSR.

### Affordable Housing Program

The NY Rising Rental Buildings Recovery Program Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) makes CDBG-DR resources available to create or rehabilitate affordable rental housing. The program relies on a partnership between GOSR and HCR. Through the utilization of HCR's established Request for Proposal (RFP) and State register notice process or referrals directly from HCR, the program engages development partners in the production and preservation of rental housing in areas of the State with unmet needs to repair or replace housing damaged by the covered storms.

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2022, the program has conditionally committed funds to a total of 19 projects that will create cumulatively 1,648 units of affordable rental housing through a commitment of \$106,895,561 in CDBG-DR funds. GOSR has 5 projects in preconstruction and 14 projects completed.

The AHF Program supports both the preservation of governmentally assisted affordable housing developments as well as the development of new affordable housing to address the rental housing shortage and help revitalize hard hit communities.

Projects selected for assistance will primarily serve Low- and Moderate-Income ("LMI") residents, including special needs and other vulnerable populations. AHF may also assist mixed-income projects where a majority of units are reserved for occupancy by LMI persons.

AHF provides project financing in partnership with HCR requests for proposals utilizing federal tax-exempt bonds issued by New York State Housing Finance Agency (HFA)

and/or projects receiving federal or state Low-Income Housing Tax Credits ("LIHTC") allocated or approved by HCR. GOSR may also provide funds to public housing and other eligible projects outside of the HCR RFP process.

## Rental Properties Program

In Fiscal Year 2022, the NY Rising Rental Properties Program continued to provide funding for home rehabilitation, reconstruction, and elevation, as well as, funding for optional resiliency adaptations for homes (bulkhead, elevation, and other optional mitigation activity). From inception through the last fiscal year (ending March 31, 2022), the program issued payments to 640 applicants for a total disbursement in the amount of \$108 million. Of that sum, \$18.9 million was disbursed to 140 properties with 51 percent or more low- and moderate-income (LMI) tenants. A total of 131 of those 140 LMI properties received payments for a combination of reimbursement and repair assistance, and 47 applicants with LMI properties received payments for repair assistance only.

During this year, the Rental Property Program coordinated closely with Single-Family Housing, in order to implement program deadlines and to target opportunities to LMI applicants.

The Rental Property Program continues to offer technical support, environmental remediation and construction services to advance applicants to closeout.

### Hardship Assistance Resolution Team

Hardship Assistance Resolution Team ("HART") was implemented to provide enhanced Construction and Case Management services directly to Applicants that were approved as Demonstrable Hardship - Contractor Fraud (CFDH) cases. Through the HART assessment, we mitigate risk to the Program and Applicants. With specialized Project Managers, Inspectors, Estimators, Data Analyst, Quality Assurance, and Quality Controllers, HART is designed to expedite the post-approval CFDH cases. HART provides post-fraud award adjustments, milestone payments based on construction progression, and case management to support the applicant to complete the project and to close out from the program. Since the inception of HART, more than 250 Contractor Fraud Victims have been assisted to date with more than \$30 million in construction milestone payments.

In FY22 over 13% of HART Applicants completed their construction and met Program requirements to close from the Program. Over 95 construction milestone payments were distributed to Applicants in the fiscal year, supporting construction progression and project completion.

<u>Public Housing Resiliency Pilot Program and Public Housing Assistance Relief Program</u> GOSR's Public Housing Resiliency Pilot Program ("PHRPP") addresses the needs of highly vulnerable, low- and moderate--income public housing residents located in coastal

and riverine communities. PHRPP focuses on protecting and enhancing the lives of residents of storm-impacted public housing developments, demonstrating a range of resilient interventions, and reducing exposure to future disasters. PHRPP was awarded funds via the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) National Disaster Resilience ("NDR") Competition, which sought to promote risk assessment, encourage planning, and fund innovative resiliency projects to help communities be better prepared for extreme weather events.

In applying to the NDR Competition, GOSR used the best available Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance data and internal program data to identify Public Housing Authority ("PHA") facilities sited in the 100-year or 500-year floodplain in areas with housing Unmet Recovery Need (URN). GOSR then analyzed this subset of properties for a tie-back to the qualified disaster(s), site-specific unmet needs, and geographic and demographic considerations with the goal of serving vulnerable populations and addressing a range of resiliency challenges.

The Public Housing Assistance Relief Program ("PHARP") addresses the unmet residential repair, reconstruction, or resilience needs of PHAs by providing funding for the repair or replacement of damaged public housing stock as well as the construction of new resiliency improvements.

There were three active Public Housing Authority project sites in Fiscal Year 2022: Channel Park, Inwood Gardens, and Mill River Gardens. Channel Park and Inwood Gardens project work consists of General Construction, Mechanical, Plumbing, and Electrical work. The Mill River Gardens project work consists of General Construction and Electrical work. Channel Park construction is 89% complete, including the installation of new resident and community center HVAC systems. Inwood Gardens construction is 91% complete, including substantial completion of general construction of the community center. Mill River Gardens construction is 86% complete, including general construction of the bulkhead, plaza, and garden area being substantial completed. It is anticipated that the remaining scope of these projects will be completed by the end of calendar year 2022. Public Housing Authority projects in Freeport (Moxey Rigby) and Binghamton (Canal Plaza) achieved construction completion in prior fiscal years.

### **Buyout & Acquisition Programs**

GOSR's voluntary Buyout & Acquisition Programs were established to purchase the properties of interested homeowners whose homes were substantially damaged or destroyed during Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene or Tropical Storm Lee.

Operating in select neighborhoods, the Buyout Program improves the resiliency of the larger community by transforming parcels of land into wetlands, open space, or stormwater management system, creating a natural coastal buffer to safeguard against future storms. The coastal buffer areas are intended to address those who live in areas that regularly put

homes, residents and emergency responders at high risk due to repeated flooding. Areas selected for the program were, first and foremost, driven by cooperation of the individual homeowners. They reflected consultation with county and local governments and, in some cases, direct appeals from the community, thereby representing a ground-up approach that has been highly effective.

Properties purchased in the Acquisition Program are redeveloped in a resilient manner to protect future occupants of the home and maintain the housing stock in storm-impacted communities.

In Fiscal Year 2022, GOSR accomplished the transfer of 119 vacant land Buyout properties owned by the Housing Trust Fund Corporation in the storm-damaged neighborhoods of Oakwood Beach, Ocean Breeze and Graham Beach on Staten Island, and one storm-damaged property in Ulster County. These properties are now owned by long-term land stewards who will maintain them in perpetuity as open space for wetlands or stormwater management purposes, creating a natural coastal buffer that will safeguard against future storms. Prospective transferees were also identified for other vacant land HTFC-owned properties for potential transfers in Fiscal Year 2023. Additionally, GOSR facilitated the redevelopment of 64 Acquisition properties that the Housing Trust Fund Corporation previously sold at public auction to redevelopers. These properties have been redeveloped in a resilient manner to better protect future occupants from potential storm damage and to maintain the housing stock in their communities. Additional Acquisition properties are in the process of being redeveloped.

The Program also partnered with the Long Island Housing Partnership (LIHP) to construct 21 properties for low- and moderate-income homeowners, with five already completed and 16 currently in construction. Eight of the 16 properties in construction are estimated to be completed between June 2022 and December 2022; the remaining eight are estimated to be completed between March 2023 and August 2023.

### *Living With the Bay*

A \$125 million Rebuild by Design grant that aims to increase the resiliency of communities along the Mill River and around the South Shore's bays through 7 infrastructure projects that utilize green and grey infrastructure to address storm surge, stormwater management, and water quality, as well as improving access and community resiliency. In addition, the program also supports social resiliency through community education and workforce development programs in partnership with Hofstra University.

In Fiscal Year 2022, the Living With The Bay program completed construction of the East Rockaway High School Project in August of 2021, completed construction of the Education Center at Hempstead Lake State Park in September of 2021, which is a major component of the overall \$35 million Hempstead Lake State Park Project, completed construction procurements with the Town of Hempstead for portions of the Living with the

Bay Greenway and East Boulevard/West Boulevard Project that began construction in April of 2022, and continued construction of the Smith Pond Project, Lister Park Project, and the Village of Rockville Centre portions of the Living with the Bay Greenway. In addition, two cohorts of the environmental technician workforce development program were completed in collaboration with BOCES and Hofstra University. Hofstra also continued to provide community education programs throughout the fiscal year.

### Living Breakwaters

The \$107 million Living Breakwaters project is an innovative coastal green infrastructure project designed to reduce or reverse erosion and damage from storm waves, improve the ecosystem health of Raritan Bay, and encourage stewardship of our nearshore waters and generally enhance people's experience of the shoreline of southern Staten Island. The project was initially developed by SCAPE Landscape Architecture for the Rebuild by Design (RBD) Competition, a design competition held by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to seek cutting edge ideas for coastal resilience in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Construction is underway and anticipated to conclude by the end of 2024. The marine mattress base layer installations for Breakwaters 1, 2,3, and 4 are complete. Completion of Breakwater 1 is anticipated this spring, and construction Breakwater 2 construction commences during the third week of May.

### NY Rising Community Reconstruction

As a hallmark GOSR program, the bottom-up NY Rising Community Reconstruction (NYRCR) Program was rooted in a participatory planning process that sought to assess and devise solutions for local needs and assets. A total of 650 New Yorkers represented their communities by serving on 66 NYRCR Planning Committees. GOSR is now working with a variety of subrecipients to implement eligible projects identified by those Planning Committees. To date, GOSR and its subrecipients have completed more than 189 projects in disaster-impacted communities. These projects account for over \$205 million invested in community-developed recovery and resiliency projects.

Some projects completed in FY2022:

- Broad Channel Resiliency Campus, \$5.5 million
  - Installation of permanent back-up power generators that are elevated above flood-level at both facilities. The generators will automatically start functioning when needed and are equipped with flood venting and leak detection. Construction of a new building at the Broad Channel Athletic Club with meeting space, storage capacity, and power equipment to enable the facility to provide outdoor relief services.
  - o Installation of flood-resistant doors at the American Legion Hall as well as elevated mechanical and electrical systems to help avoid outages during flooding events.

- o Upgrades to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system at the Legion Hall so that the facility can act as a heating/cooling center for the community during extreme weather conditions.
- Breezy Point Comprehensive Drainage Upgrades, \$12.9 million
  - o Drainage interventions, stormwater management measures, and streetscape upgrades in Breezy Point, Queens.
- Blooming Grove Emergency Response Upgrades, \$1.7 Million
  - o Constructed a new facility with full maintenance bays, equipment storage, and office space outside of the town's floodplain, which will improve emergency response and during future storms.
- Fuller Hollow Creek Flood Mitigation, \$1 million
  - o This project will improve drainage and reduce flooding at Fuller Hollow Creek in the town of Vestal in Broome County. The project included regrading, elevating, and stabilizing the creek to increase water flow and mitigate flooding during future extreme weather events.
- Bull Run Channel Stabilization,\$1.8 million
  - o The improvements included the repairing and replacing of the channel's retaining wall, as well as regrading and stabilizing the stream bank, which will reduce flood risk and enhance its resiliency and tolerance of future flooding.

### NY Rising Infrastructure Program

Striving to stabilize and protect New York from future incidents of extreme weather, the NY Rising Infrastructure Program helps local governments address recovery needs, while transforming the State's networks of transportation, energy, coastal protection, weather warning and emergency management. To date, GOSR has partnered with local governments to complete 12 projects in disaster-impacted communities. These projects total over \$108m invested in critical infrastructure projects identified by local governments needing support, repair, and mitigation work

### Completed Programs:

Interim Mortgage Assistance Program

The Interim Mortgage Assistance Program provided assistance to NY Rising Housing Program applicants displaced from their storm damaged property. The IMA Program provided reimbursement for an applicant's monthly mortgage costs (interest, principal, taxes, and escrow) after the applicant submitted evidence of rental costs at a temporary rental property. IMA helped with up to 20 non-consecutive months at a maximum benefit of \$3,000 per month, extended on a month-to-month basis.

The Interim Mortgage Assistance Program issued total payments from inception through June 2021 of \$59,838,158.68 to 2,009 applicants. This includes payments of \$23,563,449 to 955 Urgent Need applicants and \$9,368,929 to 342 LMI applicants.

## Co-Op & Condo Program

The Cooperative and Condominium Recovery Program provided funding for retrospective rehabilitation to common areas (including lobbies, hallways, and mechanical systems) and individual damaged units within condominium, cooperative and homeowner association properties that were used as places of primary residence, either by the unit owner or by renters on a full-time, year-round basis.

The Program issued total payments from inception though November 2018 of \$19,437,310.15 to 589 individual homeowners (all Urgent Need) across 44 condominium/co-op associations.

## Manufactured Home Community Resiliency Program

GOSR developed the Manufactured Home Community Resiliency ("MHCR") Program to specifically assist residents of the storm-impacted Ba Mar Manufactured Home Community. This voluntary program provided residents the option to elect one of three voluntary relocation opportunities – Manufactured Home Replacement Assistance, Homeownership Assistance, or Rental Assistance – and provided residents funding to assist them with their selected option.

The Manufactured Home Replacement Assistance Option provided eligible applicants funds to purchase and install a manufactured home unit on an eligible site purchased or leased by the applicant.

The Homeownership Assistance Option provided eligible applicants funds to enter into a contract of sale for the purchase of a home, including the full down payment determined to be necessary and reasonable, customary closing costs, and associated due diligence expenses. Additionally, Homeownership Assistance Option applicants may have been eligible for Program to provide a one-time payment to reduce the size of the loan so that the monthly housing cost of the new home would not exceed 30% of the applicant's gross income. The Homeownership Assistance Option was provided to households with up to 120% of the area median income.

The Rental Assistance Option provided eligible applicants funds to lease a rental housing unit for 42 months based on the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Fair Market Rent for the county to which the applicant relocated. The Manufactured Home Community Resiliency Program, now closed, issued total payments from inception through July 2020 of \$4,360,455.50 to 80 applicants.

#### Small Business Program

Rendering grants to support independently owned and operated small businesses that were affected by recent storms, the NY Rising Small Business Program helps to repair or replace needed equipment or lost inventory, renovate facilities that were damaged or destroyed,

and provides working capital needed as a direct result of the storms. This program is currently focused on closeout and reconciliation.

To date the Small Business Program has assisted:

Total eligible applicants: 1,056 Award total: \$53,238,452

- 64 future construction grants (including mitigation)

- 150 Repair grants (including mitigation)

- 1,030 capital/other expenses grants

## **Storm Recovery Accomplishments Overview**

During the fiscal year from April 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022 ("FY22"), GOSR worked with State, federal, and local agencies, as well as private sector partners, to deliver disaster recovery funds to communities, homeowners, government agencies, and infrastructure projects. GOSR continues to advance its Housing Recovery and Small Business Programs, conducting regular inspections to issue awards. At the same time, GOSR is committed to enhancing the long-term resiliency of the State, as it furthers many comprehensive infrastructure projects, including those being funded through HUD's Rebuild by Design Competition. The agency promotes these various undertakings through outreach and case management activities.

Assistance provided directly to homeowners during FY22 is highlighted below by program:

Program	Expended
Single Family Housing	1,424,723
Interim Mortgage Assistance	3,296
Buyout & Acquisition	31,320
Rental Properties	1,005,261
Affordable Housing – Multi Family	8,366,144
Public Housing Authority	584,334

Table 1: Beneficiary and expenditures by program during the Fiscal Year ended March 31, 2022

In addition, funds were spent to help impacted communities and rebuild critical State infrastructure:

Program	Expended	
Infrastructure	9,062,351	
Community Reconstruction	89,455,060	
Rebuild By Design	40,033,167	

Table 2: Infrastructure and Community program expenditures during the Fiscal Year ended March 31, 2022

Including program payments, GOSR managed construction, planning, program delivery and administrative costs, a total of \$237,848,893 was expended during the fiscal year.

Program	Dollars Expended
Single Family Housing	18,451,659
Interim Mortgage Assistance	47,369
Buyout & Acquisition	1,797,286
Rental Properties	1,699,225
Affordable Housing – Multi Family	8,837,404
Public Housing Authority	2,399,287
Economic Development	311,391
Infrastructure	10,522,238
Rebuild By Design	44,094,823
Community Reconstruction	98,179,825
Admin	16,414,618
National Design Resiliency Grant	16,017,151
Irene Lee Grant	19,076,618
Total	237,848,893

Table 3: Total Dollars Expended by program during the Fiscal Year ended March 31, 2022

## Sustainability

In the last fiscal year, Commissioner Visnauskas chaired the Energy Efficiency and Housing (EE&H) panel under the Climate Action Council (CAC). This panel developed a set of recommendations that would help New York State reach the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) goals of 40% carbon emission reduction, compared to 1990 levels, by 2030, and 85% reduction by 2050.

Over the last year the 22-member CAC combined the EE&H recommendations, along with the 7 other panels including, Transportation, waste, and Power Generation, Agriculture and Forestry, Energy-Intense and Trade-Exposed industries, and Land Use and Local Governments recommendations into one Draft Scoping Plan Document. The Draft Scoping plan was then shared publicly for comment on December 31, 2021. Since the release of the document for public comment, the committee has held 11 public hearings, with 9 of those being in person across various locations in New York, and two held virtually. The Final Scoping Plan is expected to be delivered to the Governor's Office by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022, pending a vote by the CAC to finalize the document at that time. The document will ultimately impact how new construction and renovation projects are designed for all HCR projects (single-family and multi-family), with a focus on all electric, low emissions heating systems and high-performance building envelopes. Additional recommendations being considered include a focus on developing work force training in low-income and disadvantaged communities to ensure the workforce and communities are provided opportunities during these market changes across the state.

As a result, and in alignment with the work of the CLCPA, HCR has built out and aligned several program areas with the decarbonization goals of the state in mind. Three key program areas are described below.

Through a collaboration with NYSERDA, and under HTFC, HCR created the Clean Energy Initiative Program (CEI) in June of 2021 through the release of Phase 1A (\$7.5M). CEI Phase 1A provides direct funding from NYSERDA to HTFC and HFA for deployment to eligible applicants who achieve and demonstrate a high-performance all-electric building design in New Construction LIHTC project applications. 7 Projects total were awarded funds through Phase 1A, 3 HFA multifamily projects, and 4 HTFC multifamily projects. The direct injection removes previous barriers for affordable housing developers needing to apply separately to NYSERDA for clean energy funding and allows them access to the funds through HTFC and HFA as part of the capital stack, similar to other subsidy-based programs HCR offers. Most recently, in February 2022, an additional round of CEI funds (Phase 1B, \$25M) were made available to expand eligibility to existing buildings who can reach full or partial electrification while also maintaining the scope for New Construction created in Phase 1A.

HCR created and released the Sustainability Guidelines, an extension of the current Design Guidelines, in May 2022. The Sustainability Guidelines are posted in two parts; A New Construction booklet, applicable for all new ground-up construction, and the Existing

Buildings Booklets, applicable to all adaptative reuse project, substantial renovation, or moderate rehabilitation projects receiving LIHTC from either the 4% bond or 9% Competitive Tax Credit Programs. The New Construction Sustainability Guidelines will require all-electric high-performance buildings design standards applicable for all projects closing after December 2022. The Existing Building booklet requires attention to renovating towards all-electric and high-performance standards but does not require full electrification.

HCR's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), as noted above, is a core program for sustainability, and the Program has made significant investment in HTFC program areas with tens of millions of dollars in estimated energy savings. These investments impact not only the operational and fiscal health of the regulated units—but also the health and safety of the residents within. This year the WAP received an additional \$34 million in funding through the American Rescue Plan (ARP). These funds were used to extend the eligible scope of work WAP Subgrantees (network of non-profit community development corporations who directly install and deliver the service to the communities) can perform and align the work with the CLCPA's goals of decarbonization. This program is currently being deployed through HTFC by the existing WAP network. Additionally, this year the WAP team is planning for and will accept an additional \$289 million to be deployed over the next 5 years, through the Bi-Partisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

### **Procurement**

Through the Office of Professional Services, Procurement and Contract unit staff endeavor to adhere to professionalism, integrity, transparency and accountability, and promotion of fair competition in procurement processes. Procurement highlights for this fiscal year include:

- a request for proposals for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program County and Regional Local Administrators
- a request for proposals for Independent Auditor Services
- a solicitation to firms on the prequalified panel of Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Special Purchase Local Administrators ("SPLA Panel") for a waitlist in New York City
- a solicitation to firms on the SPLA Panel to administer federal Section 8 Emergency Housing Vouchers across New York State.

## Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Participation

Annually, HTFC submits its MWBE participation accomplishments and goals pursuant to Article 15-A of the Executive Law. HTFC's last fiscal year report, combined with the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, highlighted an MWBE participation utilization rate across procurement and development of approximately 26%.

In the next fiscal year, HTFC will continue to work toward fulfilling its mission, partner with internal and external stakeholders in efforts to serve the community to the best of its ability, while prioritizing State objectives in ensuring sustainable efforts and increasing MWBE participation.